

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Johnson et al.

Serial No.: 08/288,577

Filed: August 10, 1994

Art Unit: 2411

Examiner: TKACS

Atty. Docket No.: 95-185-US

ELECTRONIC SOURCING SYSTEM  
AND METHOD

RECEIVED

OCT 30 1997

GROUP 2300

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

With the exception of reference EP 0 697 669 A2, the references submitted with this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement were provided to Applicants as part of the European Search Report for Applicant's corresponding European patent application (a copy of the Search Report is also submitted herewith).

A duplicate copy of form PTO-1449 (Modified) is enclosed herewith and Applicants request that after the Examiner has signed and dated both the original and the copy, that the copy be returned to the Applicants with the next communication.

1. ☐ Items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language.

- ☐ For each of the following items, an English-language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
- ☐ For each of the following items, a concise explanation of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application:
- ☐ For each of the following items, a corresponding U.S. or other English-language patent is enclosed. Please consider the U.S. or other English-language patents in accordance with the procedure set forth in MPEP § 609:

2. ☐ Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in Application Serial No. [Ser. No.], filed [Date], of which the present specification is a

- ☐ Continuation application,
- ☐ Divisional application, or
- ☐ Continuation-In-Part application.

filed under 37 CFR § 1.60.

3. ☒ Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed

- ☐ With the application;
- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application;

- ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or
- ☒ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits,

and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

4. ☐ **Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c).**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first mailing date of either

- ☐ A final action under § 1.113; or
- ☐ A notice of allowance under § 1.311.
- ☐ A fee is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and the fee is paid below; or
- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), and NO FEE is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

5. ☐ **Submission in Accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d).**

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either

- ☐ A final action under § 1.113; or
- ☐ A notice of allowance under § 1.311,

whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by

- a. One of the certifications pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e), which is set forth below;
- b. The attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
- c. The petition fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1), which is paid below.

6. **Certification Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e).**

- ☐ The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office


in a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

- ☐ The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

7. **Fee Payment Being Made.**

- ☐ Enclosed
- ☐ \$230.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR § 1.97(c).
- ☐ \$130.00 fee for submission under 37 CFR § 1.97(d).
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$            to cover the fee payment is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0582. A duplicate copy of this communication is attached.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this Information Disclosure Statement or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0582. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Gene A. Tabachnick  
Reg. No. 33,801

Dated: October 29, 1997

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